

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SS-15
SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-05 IO-13 /056 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:LPOPE:JD
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
-----056663 260124Z /14

O 260037Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE CONTACTS IN DEPARTMENT

1. BOTH BASIL OF THE AMERICAN LEBANESE LEAGUE AND ALFRED
MADY, BASHIR GEMAYEL'S EMISSARY, HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH
US TODAY.

2. MADY, WHO CAME TO THE DEPARTMENT, SAID THE KATAIB HAD
RECEIVED INFORMATION INDICATING THAT AT A MEETING JULY 23
IN DAMASCUS OF THE NATIONAL FRONT, PRESIDED OVER BY ASSAD,
IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT THERE WOULD BE FATAH COORDINATION
WITH SYRIA IN SYRIA'S FORTHCOMING ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON
MARONITE FORCES. FATAH WOULD TAKE OVER ACTIVE CONTROL OF
WEST BEIRUT.

3. BASIL TELEPHONED IN THE AFTERNOON TO SAY THAT HE HAD
JUST SPOKEN TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF MILITIA LEADERSHIP
(PRESUMABLY BASHIR GEMAYEL). THE MOOD OF MARONITE FORCES
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WAS DESPERATE. THEY COULD NOT SIT BACK AND TAKE SYRIAN
SHELLING MUCH LONGER. IF IT DID NOT STOP, THERE WOULD BE
TOTAL WAR.

4. BOTH MEN SAID THERE HAD BEEN 25 CIVILIANS KILLED IN
THE SHELLING EARLIER TODAY OF HADATH, MANY WHEN A HOSPITAL
IN THE TOWN TOOK A DIRECT HIT. VANCE

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